(c) how much crude oil was supplied to the refinery during the last three year, year-wise; and

(d) what action Government propose to take to ensure the full supply of crude oil to Barauni Oil Refinery ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) to (d) The installed capacity of Barauni Refinery is 3.3 million tonnes per annum. The quantity of crude oil refined year-wise is as follows :—

(Figs. in million tonnes)

Year	Crude processed
1990-91	2.42
1991-92	2.26
1992-93	2.29 (Provisional)

There has been an unutilise refining capacity because of short supply of crude oil from North-East. For augmenting supply of crude oil to Barauni Refinery, IOC has submitted a proposal for lying of a crude pipeline from Haldia to Barauni.

Availability of Natural Gas in Western Offshore

1180. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be plesed to state :

(a) what is the total availability of Natural Gas in the country;

(b) what is the availability of Natural Gas in Western Offshore and what is its supply to URAN :

(c) what is the progress in creating second gas terminal at USAR;

(d) by when it will be created; and

(e) what is the demand for Natural Gas from Maharashtra and how much quantity has been supplied ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) Approximately 18250 MMSCM of gas was produced in the country in the year 1992-93.

(b) Approximately 13400 MMSCM of gas was produced in the Western Offshore Region and the supplies ex-URAN, were approximately 3850 MMSCM during the year 1992-93.

(c) and (d) The concept of a pipeline from the Western Offshore to the Southern region with a suitable landfall point on the western coast has been approved in principle. Time schedule for implementation will be firmed up only when the concept has been projectised.

(e) Approximately 10 MMSCMD of gas is currently being supplied to units located in Maharashtra which by and large matches the requirements of these units.

Crude Oil Production Cost

1181. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission's cost of crude oil production has been below the international standards, if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether oil production per employees is very low as compared to other oil producing countries; if so, what are the reasons thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken to improve the quantity of oil production per employee to reach the international standard and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA) : (a) and (b) The cost of production of crude oil varies from field to field and country to country based on different characteristics of the reservoir and its location.

The average cost of production of crude oil by ONGC during the years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 was Rs. 2066, Rs. 2301 ad Rs. 2566 per metric tonne, respectively.

For ONGC, the average rate of production per employee was 1.40 tonnes per day in the year 1992-93.

Data regarding cost of crude oil production and production per employee internationally is not maintained.

(c) Steps taken to reduce cost of production of oil and gas, including cost of manpower, are continuous and close monitoring of expenditure, use of latest technology, introduction of improved managerial techniques etc.

Restriction on Entry of Public Sector Oil Companies

1182. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have restricted Public Sector Oil Companies from entering the parallel marketing of petroleum products at market related prices; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Public Sector Oil Companies had requested for an explicit permission from Government for importing kerosene and liquified petroleum gas (LPG) and selling them at market prices; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA) : (a) The parallel marketing system is aimed at involving private sector investment to supplement the resources of the public sector in distribution and marketing of kerosene and LPG.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Private Sector in Import and Distribution of LPG

1183. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to allow private sector to enter the import and distribution of liquified petroleum gas;

(b) what are the guidelines prescribed for this;

(c) how many parties have come forward to import LPG; and

(d) what mechanism has been evolved to regulate the price of the imported products ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Private agencies have been allowed to import LPG, using/setting up their own facilities, LPG bottling plants and marketing outlets for sale of such